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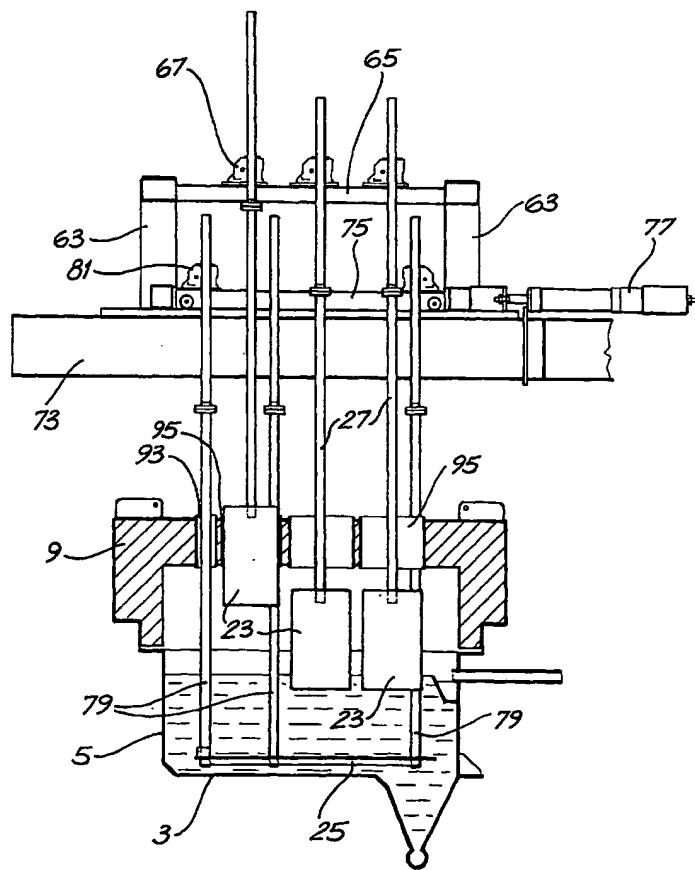
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(54) Title: ELECTROCHEMICAL REDUCTION OF METAL OXIDES



(57) Abstract: An electrolytic cell (1) for reducing metal oxide powders and/or pellets in a continuous or semi-continuous manner, the cell includes a cathode (25) in the form of a plate that has an upper surface for supporting metal oxide powders and/or pellets. The plate is supported for movement so as to cause the metal oxide on the upper surface to move toward a forward end of the plate while immersed in a molten electrolyte (21). The cell includes multiple anodes (23) and support structures (63, 65) that separately support the cathode and the anodes from above the cell. In a preferred embodiment the anode support structure enables adjustment of the spacing of the anodes above the upper surface of the cathode.



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